

I oppose loosening the rules designed to promote and protect diversity of media ownership. These rules were adopted to ensure that the public would receive a diverse range of viewpoints from the media, and not simply the opinions of a handful of media conglomerates. The cable ownership

cap is a crucial element of our democratic media, and it should not be weakened.

In Nazi Germany, all media was controlled by one group of people. It is obvious that this helped to turn a peaceful country into a country hungry for war. The less diversity there is in the media, the more the public is in danger of being misled and drawn into situations we would not otherwise find ourselves. If we are relying on corporations to be responsible, we are fooling ourselves (how long did it take for the tobacco industry to admit that smoking causes cancer?). G.E. owns NBC and is also one of the world's largest arms contractors - it doesn't take a genius to work out that there may be some conflict of interest somewhere down the line if G.E. find themselves owning half the cable bandwidth on the understanding that they will provide a balanced, full spectrum news service (which would be a possibility under the new regulations). Variety is the spice of life - the media is an important part of life. We should learn from the mistakes made by communist Russia and China, and keep the media diverse.

I am an educated, non-political human being who is thinking about the future of our children - I cannot stress enough how strongly I feel about this matter.